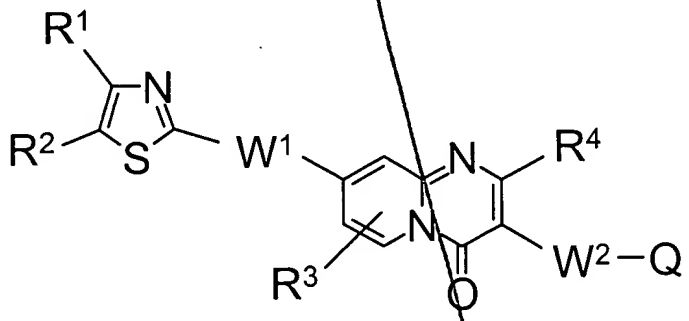
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-5, as follows, with a marked-up copy of the amended claims being included in an Appendix attached to this reply:

1. (Amended) A compound represented by the following formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof:



wherein, R^1 and R^2 each independently represent hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of $OZ_{1\text{-}6}$ (the group of $OZ_{1\text{-}6}$ represents an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms, which bonds via the oxygen atom), a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1\text{-}4}$ ($Z_{1\text{-}4}$ represents an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or an alkylene group derived therefrom), a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (R^{12} and R^{13} each independently represent hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms), a group of $Z_{1\text{-}8}$ which may be substituted ($Z_{1\text{-}8}$ represents an alkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms), a 5- to 7-membered cyclic alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, or a 4- to 7-

membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic group (the cyclic alkyl group, aryl group, heteroaryl group and heterocyclic group may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, carboxyl group, a group of CO_2Z_{1-4}, group of $CONH_2$, a group of $CONH(Z_{1-4})$ and a group of $CON(Z_{1-4})(Z_{1-4})$);

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W^1 represents a group selected from the group consisting of -CH=CH-, $-N(R^{12})CO-$, $-CON(R^{12})-$, $-CH_2O-$ and $-CH_2CH_2-$ (each of the aforementioned groups binds to the thiazole ring at the left end);

R^3 represents hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxyl group or an amino group;

R^4 represents a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen atom, a group of $-OZ_{0-4}R^5$ (Z_{0-4} represents an alkylene group having 1-4 carbon atoms, a fluorine-substituted alkylene group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a single bond, and R^5 represents a 5- to 7-membered cyclic alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group or a 4- to 7-membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic group (the cyclic alkyl group, aryl group, heteroaryl group and heterocyclic group may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, carboxyl group, a group of CO_2Z_{1-4}, group of $CONH_2$, a group of $CONH(Z_{1-4})$ and a group of $CON(Z_{1-4})(Z_{1-4})$), a group of $-S(O)_nZ_{0-4}R^5$, a group of $-N(R^6)(R^7)$ {R^6 and R^7 each independently represent hydrogen atom or Z_{1-4}, or they may bind to each other to form a saturated or unsaturated 5- to 7-membered ring (the ring may contain one or two hetero atoms as ring constituting atoms), and R^6 and R^7 may have one to three substituents selected from the group

consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of $OCON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of $CON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of $N(R^{12})CON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, group of CH_2OH, a group of $(CH_2)_mN(R^{12})(R^{13})$, carboxyl group, cyano group, a group of $CO\text{-}Z_{1-4}(R^{10})\text{-}N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (R^{10} is a substituent corresponding to a side chain on an amino acid carbon or a group of $-Z_{1-4}-R^{11}$ (R^{11} represents a substituent which forms a quaternary salt) and a group of $\left\{\begin{array}{l} CO\text{-}Z_{1-4}\text{-}N(R^{12})(R^{13}) \\ | \\ (CH_2)q \end{array}\right)$, a 5- or 6-membered aryl group which may be substituted and a 5- or 6-membered unsaturated heterocyclic group which may be substituted;

W^2 represents a single bond or $-C(R^8)=C(R^9)-$ (R^8 and R^9 each independently represent hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an alkoxy group, cyano group, carboxyl group, hydroxymethyl group, cyanomethyl group, vinyl group or a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$), Q represents an acidic group, and W^2 and Q may bind together to form vinylidenethiazolidinedione in *E*- or *Z*-configuration or an equivalent heterocyclic ring; m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 2, and q represents an integer of 0 to 3.

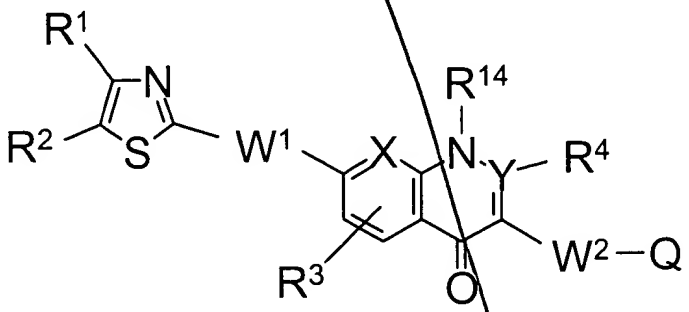
2. (Amended) A medicament composition for eliminating resistance of a microorganism with acquired drug resistance, which comprises a compound represented by formula (I) according to claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

3. (Amended) A medicament composition for enhancing effect of an antimicrobial agent, which comprises a compound represented by formula (I) according to claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

4. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for preventive and/or therapeutic treatment

of a microbial infection, which comprises a compound represented by formula (I) according to claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof together with an antimicrobial agent.

5. (Amended) A compound represented by the following formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or hydrate thereof



wherein, R^1 and R^2 each independently represent hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-6} (the group of OZ_{1-6} represents an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms, which bonds via the oxygen atom), a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$ (Z_{1-4} represents an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or an alkylene group derived therefrom), a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (R^{12} and R^{13} each independently represent hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms), a group of Z_{1-8} which may be substituted (Z_{1-8} represents an alkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms), a 5- to 7-membered cyclic alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, or a 4- to 7-membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic group (the cyclic alkyl group, aryl group, heteroaryl group and heterocyclic group may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, a

group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, carboxyl group, a group of CO_2Z_{1-4}, group of $CONH_2$, a group of $CONH(Z_{1-4})$ and a group of $CON(Z_{1-4})(Z_{1-4})$);

W^1 represents a group selected from the group consisting of -CH=CH-, $-N(R^{12})CO-$, $-CON(R^{12})-$, $-CH_2O-$ and $-CH_2CH_2-$ (each of the aforementioned groups binds to the thiazole ring at the left end);

R^3 represents hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxyl group or an amino group;

A1 R^4 represents a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen atom, a group of $-OZ_{0-4}R^5$ (Z_{0-4} represents an alkylene group having 1-4 carbon atoms, a fluorine-substituted alkylene group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a single bond, and R^5 represents a 5- to 7-membered cyclic alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group or a 4- to 7-membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic group (the cyclic alkyl group, aryl group, heteroaryl group and heterocyclic group may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, carboxyl group, a group of CO_2Z_{1-4}, group of $CONH_2$, a group of $CONH(Z_{1-4})$ and a group of $CON(Z_{1-4})(Z_{1-4})$), a group of $-S(O)_nZ_{0-4}R^5$, a group of $-N(R^6)(R^7)$ {R^6 and R^7 each independently represent hydrogen atom or Z_{1-4}, or they may bind to each other to form a saturated or unsaturated 5- to 7-membered ring (the ring may contain one or two hetero atoms as ring constituting atoms), and R^6 and R^7 may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of $OCON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of $CON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of $N(R^{12})CON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, group of CH_2OH, a group of $(CH_2)_mN(R^{12})(R^{13})$, carboxyl group, cyano group, a group

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of CO-$Z_{1-4}(R^{10})$-$N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (R^{10} is a substituent corresponding to a side chain on an amino acid carbon or a group of -Z_{1-4}-R^{11} (R^{11} represents a substituent which forms a quaternary salt) and a group of $\begin{matrix} CO\text{-}Z_{1-4}\text{-}N(R^{12})(R^{13}) \\ | \quad) \\ (CH_2)q \end{matrix}$ }, a 5- or 6-membered aryl group which may be substituted and a 5- or 6-membered unsaturated heterocyclic group which may be substituted;

W^2 represents a single bond or -$C(R^8)$=$C(R^9)$- (R^8 and R^9 each independently represent hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an alkoxy group, cyano group, carboxyl group, hydroxymethyl group, cyanomethyl group, vinyl group or a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$), Q represents an acidic group, and W^2 and Q may bind together to form vinylidenethiazolidinedione in *E*- or *Z*-configuration or an equivalent heterocyclic ring; m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 2, and q represents an integer of 0 to 3; R^{14} represents hydrogen atom, Z_{1-4}, $Z_{1-4}R^5$ or $Z_{1-4}OR^5$; and X represents C-H and Y represents C-H or nitrogen atom.

Please add the following claims 6-27:

6. A medicament composition for preventive and/or therapeutic treatment of a microbial infection which comprises a compound represented by the formula (I) according to claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

7. A method for therapeutic treatment of a microbial infection comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the composition according to claim 6.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising administering at least one antimicrobial agent.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one antimicrobial agent is simultaneously administered with the composition.

10. The method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one antimicrobial agent is separately administered from the composition.

11. The method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one antimicrobial agent is successively administered with the composition.

12. The method according to claim 7 wherein mammal is a human.

13. A method for preventive treatment of a microbial infection comprising administering to a mammal a preventively effective amount of the composition according to claim 6.

14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising administering at least one antimicrobial agent.

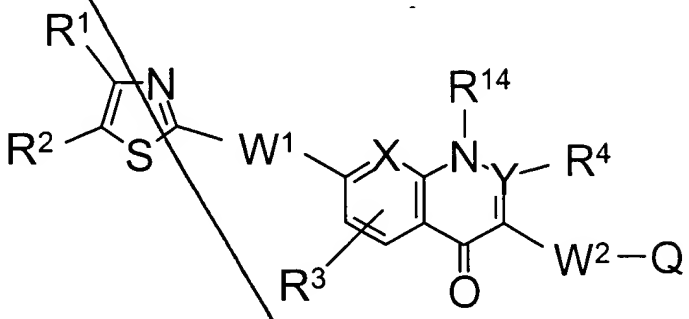
15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the at least one antimicrobial agent is simultaneously administered with the composition.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the at least one antimicrobial agent is separately administered from the composition.

17. The method according to claim 14, wherein the at least one antimicrobial agent is successively administered with the composition.

18. The method according to claim 13 wherein mammal is a human.

19. A compound represented by the following general formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or hydrate thereof



wherein, R^1 and R^2 each independently represent hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-6} (the group of OZ_{1-6} represents an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms, which bonds via the oxygen atom), a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$ (Z_{1-4} represents an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or an alkylene group derived therefrom), a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (R^{12} and R^{13} each independently represent hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms), a group of Z_{1-8} which may be substituted (Z_{1-8} represents an alkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms), a 5- to 7-membered cyclic alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, or a 4- to 7-membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic group (the cyclic alkyl group, aryl group, heteroaryl group and heterocyclic group may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, carboxyl group, a group of CO_2Z_{1-4}, group of $CONH_2$, a group of $CONH(Z_{1-4})$ and a group of $CON(Z_{1-4})(Z_{1-4})$);

W^1 represents a group selected from the group consisting of -CH=CH-, -N(R^{12})CO-, -CON(R^{12})-, -CH_2O- and -CH_2CH_2- (each of the aforementioned groups binds to the thiazole ring at the left end);

R^3 represents hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxyl group or an amino group;

R^4 represents a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen atom, a group of -$OZ_{0-4}R^5$ (Z_{0-4} represents an alkylene group having 1-4 carbon atoms, a fluorine-substituted alkylene group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a single bond, and R^5 represents a 5- to 7-membered cyclic alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group or a 4- to 7-membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic group (the cyclic alkyl group, aryl group, heteroaryl group and heterocyclic group may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group of $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, carboxyl group, a group of CO_2Z_{1-4}, group of $CONH_2$, a group of $CONH(Z_{1-4})$ and a group of $CON(Z_{1-4})(Z_{1-4})$), a group of -$S(O)_nZ_{0-4}R^5$, a group of -$N(R^6)(R^7)$ {R^6 and R^7 each independently represent hydrogen atom or Z_{1-4}, or they may bind to each other to form a saturated or unsaturated 5- to 7-membered ring (the ring may contain one or two hetero atoms as ring constituting atoms), and R^6 and R^7 may have one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group, a group of $OCON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of $CON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of $N(R^{12})CON(R^{12})(R^{13})$, a group of Z_{1-4}, a group of OZ_{1-4}, a group $S(O)_nZ_{1-4}$, group of CH_2OH, a group of $(CH_2)_mN(R^{12})(R^{13})$, carboxyl group, cyano group, a group of CO-$Z_{1-4}(R^{10})$-$N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (R^{10} is a substituent corresponding to a side chain on an amino acid carbon or a group of -Z_{1-4}-R^{11} (R^{11} represents a substituent which forms a quaternary salt) and a

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group of $CO\text{-}Z_{1\text{-}4}\text{-}N(R^{12})(R^{13})$ (with $(CH_2)q$) }, a 5- or 6-membered aryl group which may be substituted and a 5- or 6-membered unsaturated heterocyclic group which may be substituted;

W^2 represents a single bond or $-C(R^8)=C(R^9)-$ (R^8 and R^9 each independently represent hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an alkoxy group, cyano group, carboxyl group, hydroxymethyl group, cyanomethyl group, vinyl group or a group of $N(R^{12})(R^{13})$), Q represents an acidic group, and W^2 and Q may bind together to form vinylidenethiazolidinedione in *E*- or *Z*-configuration or an equivalent heterocyclic ring; m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 2, and q represents an integer of 0 to 3; R^{14} represents hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1, 3 or 4 carbon atoms or a fluoroalkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms, $Z_{1\text{-}4}R^5$ or $Z_{1\text{-}4}OR^5$; and X and Y each independently represent C-H or nitrogen atom.

20. A medicament composition for preventive and/or therapeutic treatment of a microbial infection which comprises a compound represented by the formula (I) according to claim 5 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

21. A medicament composition for preventive and/or therapeutic treatment of a microbial infection which comprises a compound represented by the formula (I) according to claim 19 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

22. A method for therapeutic treatment of a microbial infection comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the composition according to claim 20.

23. A method for therapeutic treatment of a microbial infection comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the composition according to claim 21.

24. The method according to claim 22, further comprising administering at least one antimicrobial agent.

25. The method according to claim 23, further comprising administering at least one antimicrobial agent.

26. A method for preventive treatment of a microbial infection comprising administering to a mammal a preventively effective amount of the composition according to claim 20.

27. A method for preventive treatment of a microbial infection comprising administering to a mammal a preventively effective amount of the composition according to claim 21.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 1-5 will be amended, and claims 6-27 will be added, whereby claims 1-27 will be pending. Claims 1, 5 and 19 are independent claims.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Reponse to Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the Examiner asserts that while the specification is enabling for therapeutic treatment, it does not provide reasonable enablement for the "preventive treatment" of microbial infection, etc.